



QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

March 2018

Presidents Corner

Yesterday I had the pleasure to preside at the sixth annual Public Service Luncheon. It was an easy gig since I got to do the fun stuff and the Public Service Committee did all the work. I want to thank Michael Fischer K6MLF, Rob Rowlands NZ6J, and Randy Jenkins KA6BQF for organizing it. I also want to thank Cal Anber N6TIA for putting together a delicious lunch. We had a great turnout of 43 people. As usual we discussed things that went well and things we will work on improving. There was some passionate back and forth and improvements will be made in our practice. Michael and Rob did a tag team description of each of the club endorsed events.

We had guest speakers Denise Rocco-Silber from Marin Agricultural Land Trust and Tom Boss from Marin County Bicycling Coalition who spoke about their events and answered questions about their organizations. I had the pleasure of awarding the gold star pins to those who worked on three or more events. I recommend you look at the public service honor roll at <http://w6sg.net/site/public-service/public-service-honor-roll/> to see all who participated in 2017. We owe each of them a debt of gratitude.

I felt particularly honored to give a special award to Randy Jenkins KA6BQF for his years of service to the Public Service committee including organizing our events, maintaining the Public Service section of our website, training operators, filing Public Service reports with the ARRL, and a host of other tasks too numerous to mention. The award was created by Michael Fisher consisting of the cup awarded to the club for communications at the 1947 Dipsea.

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From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Club Treasurer

In January of this year I volunteered to take over as the treasurer of the club. Our former treasurer served for many years and it was time for him to take a well-deserved rest from this position. I have served as treasurer for several other nonprofits in the past so I am familiar with process.

As you probably know from reading previous issues of QSA5 and the board minutes, that we have a substantial budget for an amateur radio club. We also have a corresponding greater amount of responsibility for maintaining the club house that we own.

Over the years a number of current and past club members have contributed a lot of hard work to help maintain and improve our club house utilizing club funds and volunteer labor. This has included many of the things you might have had to deal with as a homeowner or in some cases as a renter.

We are lucky to have a club member who is the facilities manager (Doug Slusher), which is to say he keeps the building functioning so we can all enjoy using it for our radio hobby. This past year Doug has had to deal with getting a new sewer main line installed and the roof repaired. This is in addition to the typical plumber calls, etc.

We are also in the process of replacing the entire roof in the near future and repairing some failing roof members. When you look at our financial statement, that I am in the process of preparing for the membership, keep in mind that last year we spent over \$15,000 for the previously mentioned repairs and our roofing project could easily be \$25,000 or more before we are done. So we need a healthy balance sheet to:

- Continue to offer our club members a place to meet and work on club activities
- Support our public service program
- Maintain our repeater systems

So as I take on this volunteer job my goal is to provide the club board and our members with as much information about our finances as possible. To start the process of providing club members with this information please see my article in this edition about club finances.

Club Member News

Technical News

New Members

Club Finances

Public Service Report

Membership Meeting Minutes

Board Minutes



I am also happy to pass on that Larry Bradley KK6QPE who participated in seven of our events and is currently the present of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club has agreed to join our Public Service Committee. All and all this year's Public Service Luncheon was a great success.

I want to thank Kris Backenstose N5HIT for putting together a successful Technician training and examination for the California State Militia Reserve working with Kevin Luke KK6II an officer with the Militia. They have a unit in San Rafael that trains California National Guardsmen in life saving skills including communication. Kris has fostered a remarkable education team and in this instance when he was confronted with a moving target of dates and venues led his team to meet the Militias goal where 15 people either got new licenses or upgraded. Kris has evinced the kind of enthusiasm and leadership that infuses this hobby and this club.

A few summers ago I was camping near Mount Shasta when I became aware of SOTA in this context meaning Summits On The Air w6-sota.org. This is a contest to encourage portable operation from mountain summits. On 12 May 2018 The San Francisco Radio Club organized by Antonis Papatsaras AA6PP also a member of our club will hike and activate Mount Tamaulipas. Please check out www.sfarc.org/2018-sota-activation.html

Club Member News

John Boyd

Thanks to John Boyd for researching and doing the graphics design work to get our new communications truck logos completed. Check out the truck logos the next time you stop by the club house or see it at a public service event.

Technical News

Thanks to Kris Backenstose for locating this new product to help tame your SWR problems

SWAR-GREES® Standing Wave Improver

Have you got one of those aerials that's hard to tune? SWAR-GREES® is the answer. This patented RF lubrication launched at the start of this month dramatically improves your aerial match by making signals slide along the cable with less RF friction (hysteresis), thus improving the SWR, VSWR and Return Loss. You also get increased power handling and better 'talk power' because the faster-moving signal can build up greater RF inertia. It can give a 9dB per kHz per metre improvement on SSB and up to 12dB/kHz/m or more on weak-signal modes. On VHF and UHF systems it also reduces the noise figure. SWAR-GREES® is compatible with SSB, AM and FM, all the latest digimodes and even most legacy modes. Put SWAR-GREES® on your coax for instant better matching! Each application lasts about six months. How much will *your* system improve? Available from the RSGB Shop, with special pricing for RSGB Members. See www.rsgb.org/swar-grees



New Members

Welcome to:

Mike McNevin

Brian Delehunt, KM6RJR, Greenbrae

Terry Buxton KK6KGX Pleasant Hill

Larry Loomer KI6LNB Concord

Dennis DeVilbiss KD7UWD Calistoga

James Renney KI6RGP Tiburon

Club Finances

Earlier this year the board created a finance subcommittee to recommend changes to our processes for handling the financial matters of the club.

To meet this goal a finance subcommittee of the board met several times to identify what was needed. We were fortunate to have the volunteer services of a retired CPA to:

- Review our bank accounts and processes
- Help setup our books and assist the treasurer with using the QuickBooks accounting system

There were several recommendations for changes that came out of the finance subcommittee meetings relating to handling of club funds that were approved by the board.

1. Club bank accounts. (There are two club bank accounts and a PayPal account for member payment of dues.)
 - a. **General fund-** The general account will hold all of our club funds. (except as noted below for the building account) All funds generated from memberships, donations, rent, and other sources make up this account. The board has, as can be seen in previous balance sheets, identified specific amounts in the general account for various club programs like repeaters, public service, and the radio room.
 - b. **Building account-** This account provides the funds for emergency repairs for our facilities and maintains a \$500 balance for this purpose. Major projects, such as the sewer line, are brought to the board for approval and then funds are transferred to this account to cover the expense.
 - c. **Signature authority for club accounts-**
 - i. General Account – President and Treasurer only
 - ii. Building Account- Facilities Manager and Treasurer only
 - iii. The club PayPal account- President and Treasurer only
2. All deposits and PayPal balances transfer only to the General Account.

To facilitate the proper accounting for all club finances and to maintain an accurate set of club books, the Treasurer will follow these practices:

1. All funds submitted to club are to be collected by treasurer or a designed board member and proper records submitted reflecting where the funds came from and their purpose.
2. Club members are not to collect cash on behalf of the club.
3. Any cash collections are to be documented by receipt to payer.
4. All board approved payments to club members for expenses require receipts before reimbursement.
5. Any purchases in the name of the club made without prior approval of the board will not be reimbursed unless the board makes an exception due to unforeseen circumstances.

Cartoon via Kris Backenstose



"One day, son, all of these perfectly good A.C. adapters, which have long outlived the products they were originally designed for, will be yours."

Sunday Morning Club House Activity

Gang sorting resistors for projects



Takes patience



Club Secretary and Treasurer getting the bills paid,
David Chaney, Ed Essick



Noise Floor Regulation May Be Possible

John Fallows VE6EY

Editor Note: John has written a series on noise and RFI reduction that will appear here over the next several issues.



The world's leading radio spectrum regulator may finally be taking the noise floor seriously.

One way to assess the impact of Radio Frequency Interference is to consider the ambient noise floor affecting spectrum users. According to [Wikipedia](#), “the noise floor is the measure of the signal created from the sum of all the [noise](#) sources and unwanted signals within a measurement system, where noise is defined as any signal other than the one being monitored.” The main causes of man-made RFI are incidental and unintentional.

Incidental radio noise is generated by devices that were not intended to radiate signals, but do so incidental to their normal operations. Examples are power tools, power lines and some types of lights. Unintended radio noise is generated by devices that use radio energy in their operations, but are not supposed to emit or radiate this energy. Examples include computers, televisions and switch mode power supplies.

Over the past 40-50 years, society has increasingly used electric devices which emit incidental and unintentional RFI. Regulation of these devices has been weak, particularly a lack of enforcement. The first radio users to be significantly effected are ham radio operators, but they have largely been a voice in the wilderness.

I have often said that eventually the cumulative effect of raising the noise floor across a broad spectrum would lead to a larger problem where all these devices begin to seriously interfere with each other. That is now starting to happen. This is no longer just a ham radio problem.

FCC is finally studying the Noise Floor – Maybe

Back in June, the FCC (the world's leading spectrum regulator, or at least it used to be) announced a comprehensive noise floor study by its Technical Advisory Council. TAC has spent the summer collecting advice about what to study and how to study it. That's a good start.

But what I find really interesting in the request is the admission that the FCC does not yet have evidence to support or deny the hypothesis that radio noise floor pollution is a problem or if so, how significant it is. Also astounding is the implication that the FCC cannot do proper spectrum management without this type of information. And yet, that is exactly what it has been doing for twenty years.

General Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2018

Minutes for the Marin Amateur Radio Society General Meeting March 2, 2018.

7:30 PM President Curtis Ardourel calls the meeting to order. Agenda copies are on the table for review. Introductions are made around the room.

7:35 PM Curtis adds agenda items and there is a motion, second, and vote to adopt the agenda.

7:35 PM The minutes from the February 2, 2018 meeting. There is a motion, second, and vote.

Curtis informs the group of two recent Board actions that include the Public Service list of events (it is written on the chalkboard), and the lingering question about moving the weeknight of the club general meetings. He would like to “test the waters.” He asks if the general membership and board meetings should be swapped? This would be 1st day for 2nd Thursday. Are there any comments? In the past there have been strong opinions among club members. The dates may be changed without changes to the by-laws. Member Mark Klein identifies a conflict with Thursday night CW training. Some have said that Friday night is “Date Night” and others arguing that the board meeting should precede the general membership meeting. Curtis identifies a problem and that is that the people currently present at the meeting are already predisposed to keeping Friday nights for the membership meeting. Curtis will allow this discussion to proceed at a stately pace.

7:44 PM Curtis recognizes Steven McCurdy as a new member.

7:45 PM Ham radio fun in the last month. Member Doug Slusher has moved all of his ham gear into one location after years of dispersal. He has moved to a spacious location in American Canyon near Vallejo and has joined the North Bay Amateur Radio Society. James Emrich has a new vanity call sign that matches the letters that he had at his government station in Guam in the sixties. The new call sign is N6NRV. He describes the new form for Vanity call signs with the necessary FRN number. Antonis Papatsaris AA6PP made 2 “Go” boxes for SOTA hikes. He is leading a hike on May 12. SOTA combines exercise and ham radio. He gives the example of “activating” Mt. Tam by making at least 4 contacts. Check out SOTA.co.uk. Stanly Witherspoon AI6NF has received his vanity CA DMV plate finally. He has been waiting since April 2016. Vice-President Kris Backenstose notes that Doug Slusher gave to him a very nice RF generator.

7:52 PM Secretary's Report. None.

7:53 PM Treasurer's report. Ed Essick notes that the finance committee has had a meeting and has discussed the plan to move the club's finances to Quick Books. Rich Slusher is helping with this migration. Ed will produce a finance report in April 2018. As an aside, Ed says that he will put the SOTA into QSA-5.

7:54 PM President Ardourel gives the membership report. The club has 88 members (meaning they have paid their dues). More people need and plan to renew. Those not renewed by April 2018 will be past due and Curtis will remove them from the rolls. Curtis will bring up membership cards at the next board meeting-this idea has been discussed before.

7:56 PM Skip asks when the repeater tones will be changed? Doug Slusher says in April 2018. He also discusses DCS, interference problems, and the San Francisco club repeater problems with the group.

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7:58 PM Education with Kris Backenstose. The training for the FCC Technician license for the state militia members will occur on March 17, and 18, 2018. He needs help ordering the ARRL books. Doug Slusher will help.

There is no Old or New Business.

8:01 PM There is a motion, second, and vote to adjourn.

Board Meeting Minutes February 8, 2018

- 7:32 PM President Curtis Ardourel calls the meeting to order.
- 7:33 PM There is a motion, second, and vote from all Board Members to approve the meeting agenda.
- 7:34 PM President's Minute. None.
- 7:35 PM Secretary's Minute. Refer to Item 4 in Old Business below about the antenna analyzer project. Curtis presents and email by a model train enthusiast who would like to erect a model train layout in the Alto clubhouse. There is no interest to do so among those present.
- 7:37 PM Membership. Curtis says that the club is at 85 paid membership currently. This is 65% of the membership from last year 2017. This number includes lifetime and honorary members. After March 1, 2018 Curtis will be deleting members from the roll and designating them as former members.
- 7:38 PM Vice-President and Education leader introduces Kevin Luke KK6II who is looking for training for reserve officers of the California State Militia. Kevin speaks and introduces his background. The militia members are volunteers for state civic duty. They train National Guard members in combat life-saving and other civil defense military skills. They bridge the gap between civilian agencies and the military in life-saving. Ham radio has a good tradition of emergency radio service in civil defense. Kevin got his Technician license at an exam session at the MARS club. Curtis asks Kevin, "How can we help?" and "What dates?" Kevin suggests March 17, and 18, 2018 or April 7, and 8, 2018 at the Alto clubhouse for a crash Technician Amateur radio course and VE session. The militia is leaning toward the April 2018 dates. Kevin says that their armory has 2 training rooms with computers and audio-visual equipment. The training could take place at their Armory in San Rafael instead. Kevin requests 2 full days of training and suggests a class size of 20 student. Curtis says that there is already approval and that Kevin and Kris should plan the dates and use of the Alto clubhouse. Board Member Tom Soskin asks Kevin to define their mission. Kevin responds that their mission is to provide training to DOD groups. Radio communication is part of the regular National Guard training. Mitch Martin asks about interoperability between civilian, military, and ham radio? Tom asks for a follow-up class since most ham HF frequencies are reserved for General and Extra class operators.
- 7:51 PM Kris discusses his Google account and the dissemination of Google docs for training and education at the club. He shares all of his material via Google Docs.
- 7:54 PM Technical. Doug Slusher has no report for Technical or Facilities.
- 7:56 PM Public Service (See 8:02 PM below).
- 7:56 PM VE. The next session is on March 18, 2018.
- 7:57 PM Curtis moves to the New Business items 1 and 2. Club Member and Public Service leader Michael Fischer is introduced. Michael presents the 2018 schedule and salutes the public service efforts of Member Randy Jenkins. The list of Public Service dates is passed out to the Board Members.
- 8:02 PM The meeting for Public Service recognition and training will be in March 2018. The club will recognize the public service events of 2017. This has always been a very popular meeting and widely attended. The exact meeting date is March 24, 2018. Curtis remarks that the meeting has always been very productive for club business and the public service provided by MARS. There is discussion about traffic management at public service events being left out this year 2018. MARS will not be using mesh antenna networks since they are not robust enough.

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Michael Fisher adds that training of local CERT members will be addressed. There is a story of an unnamed student from the Technician class who did not know how to use his HT radio, and the meeting will address the meeting for follow-up on Amateur students new to radio. The day will include a luncheon and Vice-President Kris Backenstose who leads education will give special training to attendees at the end. Curtis delineates the reasons for the meeting. These include: 1, To thank people for their volunteer work; and 2, To make a new recruitment efforts. As in the past, MARS will pair new radio men and women with experienced operators. This will build confidence and skill in the new operator and aid in recruitment. Past students earned their "chops" assisting at Net Control, and became skilled operators.

8:13 PM The discussion about Public Service continues... Michael Fischer compares MARS public service to that of other radio clubs. MARS routinely has 15 events whereas other clubs have 1. He gives the example of Maggie Lang who had a great first experience at the Dipsea Race posted at Windy Gap as an example for the integration of new radio operators. Curtis adds that public service events are first and foremost training. RACES counts public service events toward the required hours of training. Board Member Cal Anbar would like to see pictures of the service events on the MARS **W6SG.net** website. Curtis says, "Send me pictures everybody." Michael Fischer would like yellow communication caps. He gives the cost for what he needs to run the luncheon: \$1,100.00 to \$1,500.00. Traditionally lasagna has been the meal at the luncheon and prizes have been 1\$ and 2\$ items. There will be raffle prizes and a grand prize which will be a jacket.

8:21 PM There is a motion, second to grant Michael Fischer and his Public Service colleagues the amount of money to spend as mentioned above: \$1,100.00 to \$1,500.00.

8:22 PM Board Member Tom Soskin continues the public service discussion by suggesting that the MARS club create a mock Net Control station at the Alto clubhouse in order to practice Net Control radio protocols. The Net Control station could be inside the clubhouse with trainer radio operators outside of the clubhouse. Tom mentions that he still owes an amount of money for some Technician training manuals.

8:26 PM There is a vote on the motion posted at 8:21 PM. All are in favor.

8:27 PM Michael Fischer initiates a discussion with Randy Jenkins. He asks Randy how long he has been running Public Service at MARS. He answers since 1977 = 41 years! Michael salutes the professionalism of Randy Jenkins, Doug Slusher And Dave Hodgson in past public service. Michael explains to the board that he contributes approximately 30 hours a month to Public Service and that those hours count towards his RACES requirements. This is his lead-in however to plead for new leaders due to the advancing age of the current Public Service leaders. Leadership of Public Service takes a lot of hard work and a lot of coordination. He refers back to the trophy from 1947 that demonstrates the MARS club's commitment to public service over the last 7 decades.

8:34 PM The meeting returns to it's regular order after the Public Service discussion.

8:34 PM The new finance committee is working with President Ardourel in creating the new books for the new treasurer. Doug Slusher's brother Rich, who is a retired CPA is combing through the records to provide a starting set of records for the New Treasurer and Board Member Ed Essick. Doug who was formerly he trustee has handed the club checkbook to Ed.

8:36 PM Curtis comments on the current analysis of the books. The numbers seem accurate. The committee has concluded that it will be better to have tighter accounting controls in order to provide more transparency. The finance committee needs to set a meeting date, and February 21, 2018 has been proposed for 7 PM at the Alto clubhouse.

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- 8:41 PM Curtis discusses the move to automated book keeping. Curtis and Rich Slusher like the services and advantages of Quick Books. The price for 3 on-line users is \$35.00 a month. There is a discussion about Quick Books accounting service and the various "packages."
- 8:45 PM Curtis asks for the approval of a year subscription to Quick Books-the Essentials Version. There is a motion, a second, and all present vote yes.
- 8:49 PM Doug Slusher talks about the communication van. The exterior painting is ongoing. John Boyd has been paid.
- 8:51 PM Kris Backenstose's discussion about plaques for the clubhouse is tabled.
- 8:51 PM Discussion about the proposed Antenna Analyzer construction project led by member Steve Smith and proposed by Secretary David Chaney. Curtis suggests that he is behind the investment in infrastructure to be available for all future club projects and radio repair. There is discussion about various brands of soldering stations and soldering tools and components (tips, paste, rosin core and silver solder, pads, etc.) The price of \$400.00 to \$650.00 (not to exceed) is proposed. Kris questions whether or not the MARS club has the space and security to house a large construction project (10 people to begin). Doug Slusher notes that the club will not be making any money on the project and money spent to amass the component parts into small kits upfront will be paid by those who participate. The club will make no money on the project and participants will be able to have a kit to work on and then pay the money for it. The cost of a kit will be approximately \$105.00. There is much discussion about the analyzer and MARS Board Member's experiences assembling kits. There is a proposal to spend up to and not over \$1,250.00 on the components for the kits. David explains the ordering process for the components and the effort that Steve Smith will provide to lead the construction on Sunday mornings beginning in April 2018. The exact date is yet to be determined as needed by Steve's work schedule.
- 9:13 PM There is a motion, second, and a vote for Secretary David Chaney to spend up to an not more than \$1,250.00 (including packaging) for the parts for 10 kits for a MARS club Antenna Analyzer project. All vote for the motion.
- 9:16 PM Old Business. Changing the meeting date is tabled by President Curtis Ardourel.
- 9:16 PM More Old Business. Vice-President and Education leader Kris Backenstose has not got the permission forms yet for filming speakers at the Friday night club meetings. These are release forms. Kris is looking for a speaker for the March meeting and talks with Trustee Mitch Martin about trying to book Michelle.
- 9:20 PM New Business. The Public Service discussion was addressed at 8:02 PM.
- 9:21 PM New Business. A discussion about Board Member contact information on the W6SG.net website.
- 9:22 PM New Business. There is a discussion about a flea market project to unload many of the old radios and parts at the Alto clubhouse. MDARC has a flea market on April 20, 2018. MDARC gets 10% of the sale. Doug Slusher suggests making the notice for the flea market sale in the QSA-5. Board Member Ed Essick will incorporate the notice. There is a motion, second, and vote to move ahead with the flea market plan. All Board Members approve.

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- 9:28 PM New Business. There is a discussion about cross promotion of club events using radio repeaters. The FCC rules in Part 97 about advertising are discussed. Kris Suggests promoting the MARS events and interests first in response to questions about competing interests between radio clubs. Curtis asks if someone could talk to the boards of other radio clubs in order to coordinate cross promotion of events on repeaters. He asks also if other radio boards would be interested in discussing the coordination of dates for events, and the degree of reciprocity. Doug Slusher warns that controllers for repeaters are dumb and there could be failures with automated messages on repeaters. Curtis will speak with Larry Bradley of MDARC.
- 9:36 PM New Business. Kris will get the pizza for the next General membership MARS meeting in March, 2018.
- 9:39 PM The By-Laws discussion about Trustees is tabled.
- 9:39 PM For the Good of the Order. There is a discussion about monitoring the electrical use by the tenant upstairs at the Alto clubhouse, since she is charging an electric car temporarily. Curtis says to keep track of the meter and if it is more than two months and significant, then the MARS club will discuss paying for the increased electrical use with her.
- 9:44 PM There is a motion, second, and vote to conclude the meeting. All vote yes.

Board Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

- 7:31 PM President Curtis Ardourel calls the meeting to order. Doug Slusher is absent due to injury. Curtis refers to the agenda-are there any questions? Ed Essick the Treasurer says that he'll need 20 minutes for his report.
- 7:33 PM There is a motion, second, and vote to accept the agenda.
- 7:34 PM Board Member Marc Bruvry asks Curtis about the club meeting date change and a discussion follows.
- 7:35 PM The board minutes from the February 8, 2018 are accepted with a motion, second, and a vote.
- 7:36 PM Secretary's report. None.
- 7:38 PM Treasurer's report. Ed Essick has been combing through the last 2 years of MARS club account records. There have been inconsistent deposits, missing rent checks, and incomplete record keeping. A summary of Ed's recommendations follows. He recommends a 6-month check void policy, update the account signatures at the bank(s) utilizing MARS club minutes. The prior manual records are incomplete, i.e. deposit carbons. The migration of the MARS accounts to Quick Books will limit the number of signatories on the accounts. Rich Slusher is waiting for a 2016 tax document to continue the review and migration. Ed has yet to get on the MARS club accounts to make deposits. The summary continues: Big expenditures need to go through the board. Curtis interjects with history of the MARS club accounts. The building account began as a revolving account.
- 7:45 PM There is much discussion about Ed's review. Ed would like to keep the club and building accounts separate. Doug Slusher would be only on the building account. The building accounts could be replenished from the club account as directed by the board. Ed would have the MARS club President and Treasurer on the account. Board Member Tom Soskin disagrees with his own experience and gives examples from his past presidency. Curtis says that the arrangement of President and Treasurer as signatories is not atypical. The spirited debate includes Marc's comment about "...any executive board member..." There is a group consensus of Doug and Ed for the building account and said Executive board member and Ed on the building and club accounts respectively.

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- 7:59 PM There is discussion about the MARS club PAYPAL account links to the building account. There is a side discussion about the annual review of the upstairs rental agreement each April. The current lease has evolved since the renter made the original lease in 2012. Yearly lease review by the MARS board is prudent.
- 8:13 PM Curtis summarizes the motions needed to continue the work of the finance committee. The changes include who is a signatory by roll, and also by name. Change the signatories on the accounts first. Change the signatories to the building and facilities account to the building and facilities manager and Treasurer second. Provide names and account numbers to the bank(s) in MARS board meeting minutes.
- 8:23 PM There is a motion by MARC BRUVRY and a second by TOM SOSKIN to change the signatories on the MARS club bank account to the Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee which includes the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- 8:25 PM There is a second motion by MARC BRUVRY with a corresponding second by Tom Soskin to change the signatories on the building account at the MARS club to the Treasurer and Building and Facilities Manager. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- 8:26 PM TOM SOSKIN makes a motion to approve President CURTIS ARDOUREL as the Executive Committee Member signatory on the MARS club bank account. Board Member MITCH MARTIN seconds. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- 8:29 PM TOM SOSKIN motions for DOUG SLUSHER to be the building and facilities signatory on the MARS club building account along with signatory ED ESSICK Treasurer. MARC BRUVRY makes a second. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- President Curtis Ardourel provides the explicit summary and working of the prior and aforementioned mentions:**

THE MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY BOARD APPROVES DOUG SLUSHER BUILDING AND FACILITIES MANAGER AND ED ESSICK TREASURER FOR THE BUILDING ACCOUNT # 8795.

THE MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY BOARD APPROVES CURTIS ARDOUREL AND ED ESSICK TREASURER FOR THE CLUB ACCOUNT # 4328.

THE MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY BOARD APPROVES THE REMOVAL OF DAVE HODGSON AND JOHN BOYD FROM ALL CLUB ACCOUNTS.

- 8:36 PM The motion by Tom Soskin and second by Marc Bruvry at 8:29 PM is restated to utilize the language provided by Curtis above. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- 8:37 PM MITCH MARTIN moves to accept items 2,3,4,5,6 and 7 of Ed Essick's write financial recommendations summarized at 7:38 PM above. TOM SOSKIN seconds. ALL PRESENT APPROVE.
- 8:43 PM Curtis announces that the Alto clubhouse rental lease will be reviewed in April 2018.
- 8:47 PM Curtis says that MARS membership is at 90 members. He will prune those who've not paid dues by April 1, 2018 off of the club rolls. There is a note that club member Jack Troupe has paid Ed personally his dues.
- 8:50 PM Education. None.
- 8:50 PM Facilities. None.
- 8:50 PM Technical. None. Curtis notes that Doug will have to disable the current DSL to switch to the new internet account and service.
- 8:54 PM Finance. See 7:38 PM and following.
- 8:54 PM Communications Van. None.
- 8:55 PM Plaques recognizing past club officers is tabled to await Vice-President Kris Backenstose's report.
- 8:55 PM Changing the meeting night. Curis summarizes the history of the discussion and the current ideas. There is no interest.

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8:58 PM Tom Soskin motions and there is a second by Ed Essick to end the discussion a about changing the club meeting night. All present approve.

9:00 PM Marc Bruvry recommends a club meeting speaker. Ed Essick states that the speakers drive Friday night meeting attendance.

9:04 PM Kris Backenstose's release form for Friday night speakers is table for his presence.

9:06 PM By-Laws discussion is tabled.

9:07 PM Curtis details the technical upgrades to the W6SG.net website. There is an ensuing discussion about versions of Wordpress, upgrades, patches, exploits, and the question, "Who is the webmaster?" There are several contributors who are co-equal 'webmasters.' These include Randy Jenkins for Public Service, Kris Backenstose for education. Curtis Ardourel has been the webmaster for the overall site.

9:15 PM Website navigation changes. This discussion is table for Kris Backenstose's presence. The members present agree on the need for concrete proposals. Proposals to the MARS board should be concrete and precise to merit consideration.

9:27 PM The Financial Committee is working presently to create yearly financial reports. These reports will be made available on an appointment basis at the Alto MARS clubhouse.

9:28 PM There is a motion, second, and vote by all present to adjourn.

David Chaney AA6AE Secretary

Marin Amateur Radio Society W6SG.NET, membership@w6sg.net General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at Alto District Clubhouse at 27 Shell Road in Mill Valley, starting at 7:30 PM. Come a little early for pizza or whatever. From highway 101, head west toward Mill Valley on E. Blithedale. Turn right at the first stop light. Stay right at next stop sign, then turn left at next corner, Shell Road. We are in a two story building, second from the corner on the left directly under the power lines.

Business/Board Meeting meets at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley on the second Thursday at 7:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend.

Sunday morning informal meeting (aka bible class) meets every Sunday morning at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley starting around 8am and runs to about 11am. Sometimes we even talk about radio.

The Sunday Emergency nets. The K6GWE emergency VHF net check-in is at 10:15 am on 147.700 (-pl 203.5). This is a directed net and the net control station may operate at the club house or at a member location. Members on the net check-in list that do not check in for three consecutive weeks are removed from the list until they reestablish check-in. Any member can sign up to act as the net control station. See the club website for signup instructions. The W6SG emergency HF net check-in is at 9 am on 3.915 Mh.

Marin Amateur Radio Society Officers and Board Members:

President

Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS 510-595-3494

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Secretary

David Chaney, AA6AE

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Randy Jenkins

Kris Backenstose Instruction Team Leader.

VE Liaison

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Doug Slusher

Trustee for W6SG

Mitch Martin WU1Q

Trustee for K6GWE

Doug Slusher KF6AKU

Sunday Emergency Nets

Mark Bruvry

DX Representative of ARRL

Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829

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Mike Ransom, AI6II

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